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**M-LAW URGES MICHIGAN HOUSE TO PROTECT LEGAL REFORM  
FROM ATTACK BY PERSONAL INJURY LAWYERS**

**Novi, Mich: February 14, 2007:** Consumer advocacy group, M-LAW, today called on members of the Michigan House of Representatives to stand firm against efforts by personal injury lawyers to make it easier to file abusive lawsuits against pharmaceutical companies. "At a time when Michigan has the highest unemployment rate in the nation, the last thing our legislature should do is make job providers more vulnerable to frivolous lawsuits," said M-LAW president Robert B. Dorigo Jones. "It sends exactly the wrong message to companies considering expanding in Michigan."

"Michigan's liability climate is currently one of the few areas in which Michigan enjoys a competitive advantage over other states," said Dorigo Jones. "House Bills 4044-4046 would undermine efforts to encourage job growth by opening the floodgates to lawsuits against the very type of life sciences companies we need in Michigan. In addition, these bills will expose Michigan's family physicians to more frivolous lawsuits. The legislation is anti-jobs, anti-family and anti-common sense."

"Today the health care industry is under attack, but tomorrow it will be other Michigan businesses. Michigan's personal injury lawyers have stated publicly that they want to repeal the civil justice reform laws enacted during the 1990s, and Michigan legislators should steer clear of this slippery slope. There is no public call for changing current law, and the only ones who will benefit from rolling back the clock are the lawyers who stand to collect multi-million dollar contingency fees by suing job providers."

"The problem of frivolous lawsuits that contain fraudulent medical injury claims has become so bad in this country that this legislature wisely decided to protect those who make medicines for families. Michigan law curtails lawsuits if pharmaceutical makers get approval for a medicine from the Food and Drug Administration. The FDA's stamp of approval on a medicine is the world's 'gold standard,' so it makes no sense to allow personal injury lawyers to sue drug makers who meet the FDA's strict requirements," said Dorigo Jones.

"The leadership team of M-LAW, short for Michigan Lawsuit Abuse Watch, is comprised of respected small business owners, doctors, and community leaders who provide valuable services for the poor and disadvantaged. We care deeply about the safety and well being of Michigan's families, and that is why we urge the Michigan House to vote 'No' on House Bills 4044-4046."

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